



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

Committee Bill No. 5644

LCO No. 3091

03091HB05644PS_

Referred to Committee on Public Safety and Security

Introduced by:
(PS)

AN ACT CONCERNING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 7-314 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2011*):

4 (a) Wherever used in this section and sections 7-314a and 7-322a, the
5 word "municipality" includes each town, consolidated town and city,
6 consolidated town and borough, city, borough, school district, fire
7 district, fire and sewer district, sewer district, lighting district,
8 improvement association or any other municipal corporation or taxing
9 district, upon which is placed the duty of, or which has itself assumed
10 the duty of, protecting its inhabitants from loss by fire; the term "fire
11 duties" includes duties performed while at fires, while answering
12 alarms of fire, while answering calls for mutual aid assistance, while
13 returning from calls for mutual aid assistance, while directly returning
14 from fires, while at fire drills or parades, while going directly to or
15 returning directly from fire drills or parades, while at tests or trials of
16 any apparatus or equipment normally used by the fire department,

17 while going directly to or returning directly from such tests or trials,
18 while instructing or being instructed in fire duties, while answering or
19 returning from ambulance calls where the ambulance service is part of
20 the fire service, while answering or returning from fire department
21 emergency calls, while dispatched for medical or any other type of
22 emergency, while giving prearrival medical instructions or on-the-
23 scene medical services during said emergency dispatches, and any
24 other duty ordered to be performed by a superior or commanding
25 officer in the fire department; the term "active member of a volunteer
26 fire company" includes all active members of said fire company, fire
27 patrol or fire and police patrol company, whether paid or not paid for
28 their services, except firemen who, because of contract of employment,
29 come under the Workers' Compensation Act.

30 Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 52-557b of the general statutes is
31 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
32 *October 1, 2011*):

33 (b) A paid or volunteer firefighter or police officer, a teacher or
34 other school personnel on the school grounds or in the school building
35 or at a school function, a member of a ski patrol, a lifeguard, a
36 conservation officer, patrol officer or special police officer of the
37 Department of Environmental Protection, [or] emergency medical
38 service personnel, an emergency medical technician or a medical
39 response technician, who has completed a course in first aid offered by
40 the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, the National
41 Ski Patrol, the Department of Public Health or any director of health,
42 as certified by the agency or director of health offering the course, and
43 who renders emergency first aid to a person in need thereof, shall not
44 be liable to such person assisted for civil damages for any personal
45 injuries which result from acts or omissions by such person in
46 rendering the emergency first aid, which may constitute ordinary
47 negligence. No paid or volunteer firefighter, police officer or
48 emergency medical service personnel who forcibly enters the residence
49 of any person in order to render emergency first aid to a person whom

50 such firefighter, police officer or emergency medical service personnel
 51 reasonably believes to be in need thereof shall be liable to such person
 52 for civil damages incurred as a result of such entry. The immunity
 53 provided in this subsection does not apply to acts or omissions
 54 constituting gross, wilful or wanton negligence. For the purposes of
 55 this subsection, "emergency first aid" includes any prearrival medical
 56 instructions provided by phone or electronically or emergency care
 57 provided on the scene.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	October 1, 2011	7-314(a)
Sec. 2	October 1, 2011	52-557b(b)

Statement of Purpose:

To expand the protection from liability granted to persons providing emergency medical services.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. O'BRIEN E., 61st Dist.

H.B. 5644